

had no doubt, on meeting with this Flycatcher in Benguet, that it was of the same species as the bird I had unintentionally destroyed. This Flycatcher was also met with in Mindoro. It is a highland form, being met with at nearly 7000 feet, but occurs also at 3000 feet.

Iris, bill, and feet black.

78. *SIPHIA PHILIPPINENSIS* (Sharpe). (Grant, *Ibis*, 1894, pp. 408, 507; 1895, p. 443; 1896, pp. 112, 464.)

A lowland species, frequenting thick forest, but occasionally met with in the mountains up to 3000 feet. This species is widely distributed throughout the Philippines.

Iris, bill, and feet black.

79. *SIPHIA ENGANENSIS*. (Grant, *Ibis*, 1896, p. 112.)

Met with only at Cape Engaño, where it was decidedly rare.

Iris dark brown; bill black; feet pinkish lead-blue.

[To be continued.]

VIII.—*On a Collection of Birds from Inhambane, Portuguese East Africa.* By W. L. SCLATER, M.A., F.Z.S., Director of the South African Museum. *With Field-notes by H. F. FRANCIS.*

THE South African Museum has lately received a small collection of birds made at Inhambane, Portuguese East Africa, by two brothers—Messrs. H. F. and W. Francis, and presented by them to the Museum. The only scientific naturalist, so far as I am aware, who has previously visited Inhambane was the late Dr. Peters, of Berlin, who made it one of his stations, during his stay in Mozambique from 1842 to 1848. The volume relating to the Birds in Peters's well-known 'Reise nach Mossambique' was never published, but Peters wrote a short paper in the 'Journal für Ornithologie' for 1868 (p. 131), in which six new species from Inhambane were characterized*.

The collection of the Messrs. Francis contains examples

* *Dicrurus fugax*, *Philagrus pectoralis*, *Hyphantornis cabanisi*, *Spermophaga nigro-guttata*, *Halcyon orientalis*, and *Caprimulgus mossambicus*.

of the following species. I add references, chiefly to Sharpe's edition of Layard's 'Birds of South Africa,' and some field-notes of the collectors.

1. *BIAS MUSICUS* (Vieill.): Sharpe, ed. Layard's B. of S. Africa, p. 337.

2. *ERYTHROCERCUS FRANCISCI* Sclater fil., Bull. B. O. C. vii. p. lx (1898).

3. *MACRONYX CROCEUS* (Vieill.).

Macronyx striolatus Sharpe, ed. Layard's B. of S. Africa, p. 532.

4. *PYROMELANA MINOR* (Reichenb.).

Pyromelana capensis Sharpe, op. cit. p. 463.

5. *HYPHANTORNIS SUBAUREUS* (Smith): Sharpe, op. cit. p. 438.

6. *EURYSTOMUS AFER* (Lath.): Sharpe, op. cit. p. 106.

7. *MEROPS NATALENSIS* Reichenb.

Merops nubicoides Sharpe, op. cit. p. 99, pl. iv. fig. 2.

8. *CUCULUS SOLITARIUS* (Steph.): Sharpe, op. cit. p. 149.

9. *GUTTERA EDOUARDI* (Hartl.): Grant, Cat. B. xxii. p. 382.

Numida cristata Sharpe, ed. Layard's B. of S. Africa, p. 586.

"♂. Bana Point, Inhambane, 2/9/98.

"This Guinea-fowl, which frequents thick bush, is fairly common throughout Gazaland. It is wary and difficult of approach. The iris is bright blood-red; the bare parts on the neck and head are shining leaden black; the loose flap of skin on the neck behind the head is dirty bluish white."—H. F. F.

10. *PTERNISTES HUMBOLDTI* Peters: Sharpe, op. cit. p. 589; Grant, Cat. B. xxii. p. 176.

a. ♂. "Lake Barana, 3 miles west of Inhambane; iris dark hazel.

"This bird is very plentiful and common; I have observed it as far as I have been in this district—viz. 50 miles north of

this port, and also about 60 miles inland. My brother also observed it at a point about 70 miles south of this place, but saw nothing of it beyond that. This species seems to replace in this locality *P. swainsoni* and *P. nudicollis*, neither of which appears to be found here, although I met with the former rather plentifully in the bush-veldt of Gazaland further south. The call of *P. humboldti* is exactly the same as that of *P. swainsoni* and *P. nudicollis*. It frequents thick-scrubby and inaccessible spots during the day, but is always to be found in the Kaffir gardens early in the morning and late in the evening. On perceiving anyone it immediately runs off into the scrub or other thick stuff, and generally rises behind trees or other obstructions, so that it is very difficult to get a shot at it. Like other Bush-Francolins, on being suddenly flushed by a dog it generally takes refuge in the branches of the nearest tree. It is very fond of scratching up the ground-nuts in the Kaffir gardens, and also grubs up the roots of the mandioc plant, which is largely cultivated here. Its native name is 'Inkwari.' N.B.—I noticed that in Gazaland the natives called *P. swainsoni* 'Inkwali,' and in Natal and Zululand the name of *P. nudicollis* is also 'Inkwali' or 'Inkwayi.' I believe the natives of Cape Colony also call *P. nudicollis* by the same name, which shows that all the tribes as far north as this use the same name with a slight difference of pronunciation only."—H. F. F.

b. ♀, also from Lake Barana, Inhambane. "Breeds all the year round; very strong in flight; generally found in pairs, although very often in larger parties, but never more than 5 or 6 individuals together. Bare part of throat and round the eye bright red, approaching vermilion. Legs bright red, shading off to a darker colour on the edges of the scales in front of the legs; feet the same."—H. F. F.

c. ♂. "Inkumbi, 40 miles south of Inhambane. This specimen differs from others of the same kind in having a white patch on the lower breast. This is probably a freak, as all the others we have shot and observed lack the white mark."—H. F. F.

[This bird, although included in Sharpe's edition of Layard's 'Birds of South Africa,' has never, so far as I am aware, been definitely recorded from south of the Zambesi before.—W. L. S.]

11. *ÆGIALITIS HIATICOLA* Sharpe, op. cit. p. 660.

“♂. Bay of Inhambane, Sept. 5th, 1898. Shot out of a flock of Sandpipers; legs yellowish orange; iris blackish brown.”—H. F. F.

12. *CALIDRIS ARENARIA* Sharpe, op. cit. p. 684.

“Two ♂ adults and 1 ♀. 18/9/98. Bay of Inhambane. Shot out of a flock of upwards of a hundred; the stomach of one contained grains of millet and mealie meal.”—W. F.

13. *TRINGA SUBARQUATA* (Güld.).

Male. 5/9/98. Bay of Inhambane. “Iris blackish: shot out of a large flock.”—H. F. F.

14. *PHYLLOPEZUS AFRICANUS* (Gm.).

Parra africana Sharpe, op. cit. p. 648.

♂. 14/8/98. Inhambane. Crown of head and basal part of bill leaden blue; legs and feet slate-colour; iris blackish brown. Common on the lakes and ponds in this vicinity.”—H. F. F.

15. *ERYTHROCYNUS RUFIVENTRIS* (Sund.): Sharpe, Cat. B. xxvi. p. 200.

Female. 5/3/98. Lake Barana, 3 miles N. E. of Inhambane. “Iris rich yellow, shading off into reddish orange on the outer ring; bare skin round the eyes bright yellow; base of bill bright yellow, tip dark horn; feet and legs yellow; toes horn. Rare in this locality.”

16. *NETTOPUS AURITUS* Sharpe, op. cit. p. 750.

Three examples. 11/9/98. Lake Barana, Inhambane, not uncommon.

“Iris darkish brown, almost black; bill dusky yellowish, shading off to almost black towards the point; lower mandible livid, bare skin in between the mandible yellowish orange; legs and feet bluish black. Not uncommon.”—H. F. F.

17. *NETTION PUNCTATUM* (Burch.) : *Salvad. Cat. B.* xxvii. p. 265.

Querquedula hottentota Sharpe, *op. cit.* p. 757.

Male. 11/9/98. Lake Barana, Inhambane.

“Legs and feet turquoise-blue, inclined to leaden; bill black from the nostrils, the black part widening out and almost covering the entire bill at the point; basal part of the bill below the nostrils turquoise, running into a very narrow line towards the point and continuing right round; lower mandible more leaden, soft skin between; iris black.”—
H. F. F.

IX.—*Bulletin of the British Ornithologists' Club.*

Nos. LVI. & LVII.

No. LVI. (October 31st, 1898).

THE fifty-fifth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 19th of October, 1898. *Chairman* : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S. Forty-two Members and seven guests were present.

THE TREASURER announced that the first business of the Meeting was to choose the Officers of the Club for the new Session, and the following were unanimously elected by show of hands :—

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Vice-Chairmen { PHILIP CROWLEY.
H. J. PEARSON.

MR. W. E. DE WINTON was elected a Member of the Committee in the place of Major A. P. LOYD, who retired by rotation.

THE CHAIRMAN gave the following address :—

BROTHER MEMBERS OF THE B. O. C.—

On opening the Seventh Session of the British Ornithologists' Club, I will venture to trouble you with a few words.